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Fire Investigators Seek Public's Help in Brockton Arson

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Brockton Fire Chief Richard Francis and Brockton Police Chief William Conlon announced that their joint investigation into the Monday, January 3, 2011 fire at 722 North Main Street fire has determined the fire was intentionally-set.

The fire occurred in the early morning hours in a commercial building that housed Travis Cycle and Game's On Apparel.

Coan said, "Investigators are looking for any information the public might have about who set this fire. Please call the state Arson Hotline confidentially, 24-hours a day at 1-800-682-9229." The Arson Watch Reward Program provides rewards of UP TO \$5,000 that helps to solve the crime of arson and is funded by the property and casualty insurance underwriting companies of Massachusetts. He added, "Anyone who saw or heard something the night of the fire, or since, is encouraged to call the Arson Hotline."

The Arson Watch Reward Program recently provided a reward to a woman who helped to convict Chiteara M. Thomas of first-degree murder in the death of twenty-eight year old Olinda Calderon who died in a horrific fire at 779 Montello Street on July 6, 2006. It is believed this is the first time in Massachusetts a first-degree murder conviction was obtained in an arson fire.

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